UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

hereby bestows the title of

Honorary Fellow

upon

Mario Permuth

in acknowledgment of his leadership of the Jewish community of Guatemala and South America; in esteem for his struggle on behalf of civil rights and his untiring efforts as a peace-maker in Guatemala; and for his friendship toward the University of Haifa.

24 Iyyar 5760 May 29, 2000

Prof. Yehuda Hayuth

President

Prof. Gad Gilbar

Rector

Mario Permuth

Educated as a lawyer and notary public at San Carlos University of Guatemala, where he specialized in corporate, commercial, and tax law, Mario Permuth

went on to develop a very impressive career in law and public service. He is a member of the Inter-American Bar Association, the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, the Guatemalan Institute of Private Law (which he once headed), the Center for the Defense of the Constitution, and (1994-1995) the Commission for Legal Reform.

Mr. Permuth is known as a fighter for civil rights and as a jurist with broad concerns. He serves Guatemala as a Special Envoy and has represented his country's president at scores of international events and councils. In the decade of the 1990s, he participated in the peace commissions that formulated accords between the government of Guatemala and the Guatemalan Insurgency.

One of the leaders of Guatemala's Jewish community, he has headed its Jewish Youth Movement, *Macabi Hatzair*, and the Synagogue Hebrew Center Asociation of Guatemala, and was co-vice president of the Maccabi World Union. He was twice elected head of the Jewish community (1981-1987, 1990-1992). Since 1981, he has been a representative in Guatemala of the Board of Directors of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS); and since 1988, he has represented the community at the Latin American Jewish Congress, a branch of the World Jewish Congress.

In addition to his professional and communal activity, Mr. Permuth is a Master Photographer whose work has garnered more than 200 prizes at individual and collective exhibitions in Guatemala and abroad.

